

Amendments to the Claims

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims

1. - 15. (cancelled)
16. (new) A cutting blade for use in a utility knife comprising:
 - a bottom side and a top side having a distance therebetween that is a height;
 - a cutting edge having a length between a first end and a second end, and oriented along said bottom side, said cutting edge comprising at least two arcs having beveled faces; and
 - at least one point of local minimum positioned between said first and second ends on said cutting edge at the intersection of two of said at least two arcs, said point of local minimum being a local minimum relative to said top side when compared with any position on said cutting edge adjacent to said point of local minimum.
17. (new) A cutting blade of claim 16, wherein said point of local minimum is one of a plurality of points of local minimum
18. A cutting blade of claim 17, wherein the number of said points of local minimum is in the range between and including four and twenty.
19. (new) A cutting blade of claim 17, wherein the number of said points of local minimum is exactly eight.
20. (new) A cutting blade of claim 17, wherein said points of local minimum are equally spaced from one another along said cutting edge.
21. (new) A cutting blade of claim 16, wherein said at least two arcs comprise a portion of one of a circle, an ellipse, a hyperbola, or a parabola.

22. (new) A cutting blade of claim 16, wherein said length of a said cutting edge is less than about 60 millimeters.

23. (new) A utility knife comprising:

a cutting blade comprising:

a bottom side and a top side having a distance therebetween that is a height;

a cutting edge having a length between a first end and a second end, and oriented

along said bottom side, said cutting edge comprising at least two arcs having

beveled faces; and

at least one point of local minimum positioned between said first and second ends on

said cutting edge at the intersection of two of said at least two arcs, said point

of local minimum being a local minimum relative to said top side when

compared with any position on said cutting edge adjacent to said point of local

minimum;

a mount through which said cutting blade is secured to said utility knife; and

a housing to which said mount is attached, said housing having a length for use as a handle

for gripping said utility knife.

24. (new) A utility knife of claim 23 wherein said cutting blade is repeatably secureable and unsecurable to said mount such that said housing may be reused with various of said cutting blades.

25. (new) A utility knife of claim 23 wherein said cutting blade is repeatably retractable into said housing and extendable from within said housing.

26. (new) A method of cutting comprising:

providing a cutting blade comprising:

a bottom side and a top side having a distance therebetween that is a height;

a cutting edge having a length between a first end and a second end, and oriented

along said bottom side, said cutting edge comprising at least two arcs having beveled faces; and

at least one point of local minimum positioned between said first and second ends on said cutting edge at the intersection of two of said at least two arcs, said point of local minimum being a local minimum relative to said top side when compared with any position on said cutting edge adjacent to said point of local minimum; and

making a cut by moving said cutting blade through a portion of an object to be cut using a pushing or pulling motion in a direction generally parallel to the direction of said cut.